Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talppalli):* Are there not provisions in the Cochin Irrigation Act to execute such minor irrigation works?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. There are provisions. But the amount of money at our disposal is limited. I quite understand the anxiety of the Council, and Government are equally anxious. If anything ought to be done to help the tenants, it is giving them facilities of this kind, and you will see that a number of minor works have been taken up by the Panchayats, consistent with the funds at their disposal.

RESOLUTION—PALANJI PANCHAYAT—OPENING OF NEW MARKET ROAD

181. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.--

(*a*) whether any resolution on the question of opening the new market road at Palanji was passed and recorded by the local Panchayat on 4th Vrischigam 1116;

(*b*) whether the Director of Public Health and Panchayats visited Palanji on 4th Vrischigam 1116;

(*c*) whether the resolution referred to in (*a*) is in record at present?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Please see answer to (*a*).

INCOME-TAX FROM MERCHANTS OF MATTANCHERI—FIGURES REGARDING

182. Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state the amount of income-tax collected from the merchants of Mattancheri during the years 1109 to 1116?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Separate accounts are not maintained for income-tax collections from Mattancheri.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* I have a suggestion to make to the Hon'ble President, that such answers should not be printed and placed before the Council. This answer could very well have been communicated to me.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. President: Therefore, if hon'ble members of this Council send questions, do you mean to say that the discretion must be with Government. We have no objection.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Such answers may be sent to us and not to the Council.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* We also want to know what exactly is the answer given by the Government. When a question of this nature is put to Government, we want to know what exactly is the nature of the answer Government are interested in giving.

Mr. President: From the view point of the privilege of non-officials, it is very dangerous to give that discretion to Government.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Not to Government, but to the President.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* May I know whether it is not possible for Government to keep separate accounts?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* As a matter of fact, no separate accounts are kept. But that question will have to be further considered.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is there not a Taluk-war statement published in the annual report of the Income-tax Department?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The question was with respect to the collection from the merchants of Mattancheri. I can easily give the demand. At present, no separate accounts are kept for the collections from the merchants of Mattancheri.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Is it necessary that separate accounts should be kept in order to find out the amount collected from the merchants of Mattancheri? It can be found out by a mere adding. This is not at all an answer to the question. This is an evasion.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* It is not an evasion at all. The question was forwarded to the head of the department, and he said that there are no separate accounts for the merchants of Mattancheri alone.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Is the Secretary satisfied with the answer given by the department concerned?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* It is not a question whether I am satisfied or not. It is a fact.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* The member did not ask for separate accounts, he wanted only the amount. What is the difficulty in supplying the information with regard to the figure?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* From the accounts now kept, it is stated that it is not possible to give the figure.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know why?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Because there are no separate accounts. If we want to get the figure, we will have to go through the accounts of 1109 to 1115 and see who are merchants and who are not.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Is there not a column in the account book showing from which place the income comes?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* There is no separate *peredu* for Mattancheri. If we want to get the figure, we will have to go through the whole accounts of 1109 to 1115, then ascertain who are merchants and who are not, the amounts collected from merchants, and so on. It will be a very difficult process.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Are agriculturists also taxed under the Act?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The Hon'ble Secretary said that he could give the figure of demand for the whole of Mattancheri. After the demand is ascertained, is it not the duty of the department ordinarily in their working to see what amount of the demand has been actually collected?

Mr. President : The total demand for Mattancheri can be given, the total amount collected from Mattancheri can be given, but not the amount from the merchants of Mattancheri.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* What is the public purpose served?

Mr. President: The Incom-tax Department has, no doubt, got statistics of the locality from which collections are made. From

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mattancheri income-tax is collected from persons in respect of professions, dividends, house rents, etc. Are we to keep separate accounts for all these?

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* It may be difficult to find out the amount. But it is not an impossibility.

Mr. President: If the Department is asked to go through the accounts for 6 years and add up, there must be a purpose served.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* There is a purpose. Yesterday, I was putting a question about the increase in the trade in the Harbour. Today the purpose is to find out whether there is a corresponding increase in the collection of Income-tax from the merchants of Mattancheri.

Mr. President: An increase in trade may sometimes result in a loss to merchants. Therefore, no inference can be drawn from that.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether in future Government can keep the accounts separately?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* It will be considered.

MUSIC MISTRESSES—INCLUSION WITHIN PURVIEW OF STAFF SELECTION BOARD

183. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state whether it has any objection to bring the appointment of music mistresses under the purview of the Staff Selection Board?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Government do not think it necessary.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* After all, the number of music mistresses is 2, 3 or 4. May I know why a special discrimination is shown in the case of music mistresses?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* When we delegated this power of selection to the Staff Selection Board, we had in mind appointments to which all communities can present candidates. As matters now stand, whether for reasons of disinclination or otherwise, the music mistresses happen to come from one or two communities. There is no particular point in asking them to select music mistresses, especially when we have the new system of selection.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly